Never Sheathe the Sword
Until Victory Is Won

Nippon Times

The Die Is Cast, Let's
Fight to the Last!

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BRITISH COMMANDO MAKES FEEBLE RAID ON ISLE OFF FRANCE

No Need for Action by Reich Troops as Foe Attempts To Land on Sark

FOILED BY MINEFIELDS

Anti-Axis Fleet Suffers Big Damages in Naval Fight in Bay of Biscay

Domei

LISBON, December 29.—British forces early yesterday morning attempted an unsuccessful commando raid on the Island of Sark located in the English Channel 15 miles off the coast of Cherbourg, France, according to a Berlin announcement.

The report said that German defense forces on the island did not even have to go into action when the British commando troops tried to land for the second time in one week.

It was also reported that the British attempt failed in the dense minefields off the coast of France, where the enemy forces left many dead soldiers in their hasty retreat.

The Fuehrer's Headquarters announced that a naval engagement took place from December 27 to 29 in the Bay of Biscay between German destroyers and enemy torpedo boats with the air forces of both sides participating in the fight. Damage was suffered by both sides in hard fighting, it was added.

Meanwhile, the British Admiralty claimed the sinking of a German blockade runner by Coastal Command aircraft and of three destroyers by the Royal Navy with the cooperation of aircraft of the Coastal Command and the United States navy in the Bay of Biscay engagement. The London announcement added that the cruisers Glasgow and Enterprise participated in the action.

On the Eastern Front the Soviets launched stronger attacks in the Zhitomir area on Tuesday, but were repulsed by stubbornly resisting German troops. Forty-one Soviet tanks were destroyed in the engagement, it is reported.

German military experts considered that the battle in the Zhitomir sector is the focal point of fighting on the Eastern Front at present. They said that the Red Army is throwing into action masses of men and material in an attempt to push toward the west in three spearheads.

Their main thrust is being made along the Kiev motor highway in the direction of Zhitomir, it was added. Moreover, strong Soviet forces are trying to approach Berdichev from the southwest. Finally, numerous Soviet divisions are attempting to advance through Radiomysl to Korosten.

In conclusion, the German experts said that extremely embittered fighting is going on and the weather is not yet "real Russian winter," but conditions allow tank warfare on a major scale.

Near the White Russian city of Vitebsk all Soviet attempts to break through were repulsed by the Wehrmacht. North of Kirovograd the Germans, despite stubborn resistance, dispersed Soviet deployments, according to a German war bulletin.

In South Italy, the war situation on Tuesday remained quiet but for one frustrated enemy attack north of Venafro, southeast of Cassino.

Twenty-six heavy American bombers, escorted by fighter planes attacked North Italy, but the Luftwaffe and anti-aircraft corps claimed 22 of the enemy raiders. The Germans lost four fighters in the engagement, according to a Berlin announcement.

Meanwhile, reports from Switzerland said that anti-Axis planes on Tuesday heavily bombed Rome. In this connection, the Paris Radio said that Pope Pius XII had watched the bombing from a window of the Vatican.

German planes this afternoon attacked the southeastern coast of England, according to a Berlin announcement issued this evening, which added that further details on the attack were not available.

Foe Suffers Damages

Domei

BERLIN, December 29.—British and American warships, which clashed with light Reich naval units in the Bay of Biscay, have suffered considerable damages. One anti-Axis cruiser that participated in the battle was severely damaged by German gunfire and had to withdraw from the battle, German military authorities announced today.

Plot To Overthrow Chilean Government Is Nipped in the Bud

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 29—A plot aiming at the downfall of the Chilean Government was discovered in time to prevent any serious development, announced Interior Minister Oswaldo Hiriano today, according to Santiago reports. This coup, planned by Chileans as well as foreigners, aimed at obtaining the cooperation of a portion of the Chilean Army for the execution of their scheme, it is reported. This attempt to overthrow the Government is believed to be a manifestation of the antipathy against the "good neighborhood" policy of the United States, and although the plot itself failed, it will have serious effect on other countries in the American continent.

RIZAL DAY OBSERVED IN PHILIPPINE ISLES

Laurel, Envoy Murata, Nippon Army and Navy Officers Attend Memorial Rites

Domei

MANILA, December 30.—The people throughout the Philippines today greeted the first Rizal Day since the gaining of independence.

In Manila here, beginning at 9 a.m., solemn rites were observed by the people before Dr. Jose Rizal's Memorial Monument in Luneta Park, which was attended by President Jose P. Laurel and other prominent men of the Philippines numbering over several thousands, as well as by Japanese representatives including Ambassador Shozo Murata, Supreme Commanders of the Japanese Army and Navy and other numerous influential men.

President Laurel delivered a fiery speech encouraging the people to pursue the will of Dr. Rizal for the progress of the new Philippines. Following his message, the whole assembly marched to Fort Santiago where Rizal was confined 47 years ago.

Throughout the day, all singing and dancing and other forms of merriment were suspended.

Embassy Fetes Day

Domei

MANILA, December 29.—In deference to the memory of the Filipino hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, the Japanese Embassy here will be closed on December 30 which is a Philippine legal holiday and the 47th anniversary of Rizal's execution under the Spanish regime.

The Embassy adopted as its own holidays the following four Philippine holidays: Independence Day, October 14; National Heroes' Day, November 30; Greater East Asia Day, December 8; and Rizal Day, December 30.

Meanwhile, in connection with the Rizal Day celebration, the Government this afternoon requested the provincial, city, and municipal Government offices to fittingly observe the day by hoisting the Philippine flag at half-mast tomorrow.

Rizal Biography for Schools

Domei

MANILA, December 29.—On the eve of the observance of the first Rizal Day under the Philippine Republic, President Jose P. Laurel issued an executive order prescribing the prize-winning biography of the Filipino hero, written by the late Dr. Rafael Palma, as a school textbook.

At the same time the President directed the Minister of Education, Health and Public Welfare to conduct two separate contests for the translation of the work from the Spanish original to Tagalog and English.

Dr. Laurel also stressed the necessity of studying the teachings and following the inspiring example of the great martyr who gave unstintingly of his life and labors for the cause of the nation.

The late Dr. Palma, who wrote the biography which won 3,000 pesos in the contest held in 1938, was an officer in the Philippine Revolution against Spain. He was also a former member of the Philippine Senate and former president of the University of the Philippines.

Benes Reaches Teheran

Domei

LISBON, December 28.—President Benes of the refugee Czechoslovak government arrived at Teheran from Moscow today.

RECURRENT STRIKES PROVE COSTLY BLOW FOR U.S. INDUSTRIES

Labor Worries Temporarily Averted as Armed Force Utilized by Roosevelt

RAILMEN FINALLY SUBMIT

Tremendous Loss in War Output Seen Due to Troubles At Various Plants

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 29.—The year-end labor embroglios in the United States, which had gravely harassed the Government authorities, finally appeared to have been settled for the moment, but only after the Government had resorted to high pressure measures. However, the settlement has proved costly to the nation's war industries, a dispatch from Washington disclosed.

Secretary of War Henry Stimson, in connection with the taking over of the nation's railways, declared that the recent governmental measures have finally suppressed the scheduled grand-scale strike. Railway operations have been taken over completely by the United States army, and future strikers will be heavily punished, he emphasized. Stimson further declared that in case the strike had been carried out, every 24 hours of labor suspension would have been equivalent to the costly loss of over 300 planes.

Meanwhile, the Washington dispatch added, with the suspension of the steel workers strike following orders issued by the CIO President, Phillip Murray, the workers are gradually returning to their jobs and the steel industries are expected to recover in time, but that the strike has dealt a heavy irretrievable blow to the entire nation. According to investigation by the United States Steel Association, over 125,000 tons of steel production was lost throughout the nation as a direct result of the steel workers strike.

Strike Move Postponed

Domei

BUENOS AIRES December 29.—The three Railway Brotherhoods which had doggedly resisted President Roosevelt's efforts at mediation finally issued orders to suspend their scheduled strike, today, a Washington dispatch disclosed.

CIO Workers Submissive

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 29.—Secretary of War Henry Stimson, today, issued an announcement that all railway workers' associations attached to the CIO, apart from the Railway Brotherhoods which have been opposed to mediation, have suspended their scheduled strike, according to a dispatch from Washington.

It was reported that the decision was reached after a conference between Army authorities and representatives of the workers.

Assumes Control

Domei

LISBON, December 28.—The United States army took over control of American railroads yesterday night under orders from President Roosevelt who ordered the seizure of railways to prevent the strike that was scheduled to start on Thursday, it is reported from Washington.

The move came when three railway unions with a membership of approximately 150,000 had stubbornly refused to allow the President to arbitrate in their dispute with the railway managements for higher pay.

In ordering the seizure, Roosevelt declared, "I cannot wait until the last moment to take action to assure that supplies to our fighting men are not interrupted. I am accordingly obliged to take over at once the temporary possession and control of railroads to ensure their continued operation. The Government expects every railroad worker to continue at his post—if the employes of railroads strike they will be striking against the Government of the United States."

Meanwhile, striking steel workers in nine states reluctantly returned to work upon the order from their union president, Phillip Murray. The strike had been participated in by a total of 155,000 workers, greatly curtailing not only steel

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Honors Bestowed on 148 Civilians For Meritorious Service in Navy

140 Included in 22nd Conferment of Awards for Work In China Affair; 8 Posthumously decorated For Aiding Naval Activities

The 22nd conferment of honors upon 140 civilians in the service of the Imperial Navy who have rendered meritorious services in the course of the China Affair and the 32nd posthumous conferment of honors on eight civilians who had made remarkable contributions to naval activities in Manchoukuo and Central China were jointly announced by the Navy Ministry and the Bureau of Decorations today.

The announcement follows:

"The conferment of honors on the civilians in the service of the Imperial Navy who have offered distinguished services in the China Affair was ordered by the Throne today. Those honored include 140 men including Kiyoshi Kanai who exerted great efforts in aiding naval operations and construction works in various places in China and eight dead who had offered material contributions to naval operations in Central China and Manchoukuo or did much towards bolstering armament production as leading staff members of munitions companies."

Those granted the 22nd conferment of honors include Kiyoshi Kanai, who, immediately after the outbreak of the China Affair in 1937, actively engaged in publicity affairs at Shanghai making marked contributions to information activities on the spot in the field of foreign relations. Among the honored civilians is also Sukenao Hisano who distinguished himself in the planning of construction works in the Central China area as well as in the medical services.

Among the heroes honored with the 32nd posthumous conferment is the late Shiro Yoshida, a member of the Tokyo plant of the Nakajima Airplane Manufacturing Company, who had made material contributions to the improvement of aircraft engines.

E. ASIA UNITY IS AIM OF HSINMIN SOCIETY

Vice-President Yu Returns From Tokyo Bolstered With New Resolve

Domei

PEKING, December 30.—Returning from Japan yesterday, Yu Hsi-Chieh, Vice-President of the Hsinmin Society, said today that North China must cooperate further with Japan for the execution of the War of Greater East Asia. While in Japan Mr. Yu attended the conference of the leaders of Greater East Asia development organizations.

"Visiting Japan under the present wartime condition, for the first time in three years, I was particularly impressed by the fact that all the Japanese are directing their united efforts for the execution of the war," he said. "At the conference of the leaders of Greater East Asia development organizations, concrete and joint policies of Japan, Manchoukuo and China for the materialization of the Joint Declaration adopted at the Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations were discussed," he added.

"The activities of the Hsinmin Society in 1944, will be based on the decisions reached at the Tokyo conference, which incidentally, decided on the organization of a Greater East Asia Council," Mr. Yu stressed. "Japan, Manchoukuo and China will have representatives in the proposed Council to maintain close cooperation and to propel the movement for developing Greater East Asia," he explained. Continuing, the Vice-President of the Hsinmin Society said:

"In future, the Council will also have representatives from Thailand, Burma and the Philippines.

"At Tokyo I had the opportunity of discussing matters with Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and other leaders of Japan. In this regard, I was impressed to see Prime Minister Tojo so deeply interested in the Hsinmin Society, and I realized that we must give further efforts for the society's future activities. In North China the Hsinmin movement will be greatly expanded in the future so that we will be able to give our efforts for the development of Greater East Asia.

"The mission of the Hsinmin Society in North China is to fight Communism. We must smash Communism—the greatest obstacle preventing the unity of China, so that our country will be united thoroughly, and the solid unity of Greater East Asia attained."

Gen. Sun Given New Post

Domei

NANKING, December 29.—General Sun Tien-ying, who is at present Vice-Commander of the 24th Group Army of the National Government of China, was appointed the Commander of the Communist Suppression Army in northern Honan Province, the National Government of China announced yesterday at the meeting of the Executive Yuan.

Roosevelt Reported Ill

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 29.—Since yesterday President Roosevelt has been confined to his bed with a cold, but he has no fever, according to Washington reports.

BANGKOK RAIDS FAIL TO DEPRESS PEOPLE

Thais More Determined Than Ever to Avenge For Foe's Bombings of Civilians

The repeated enemy bombings recently carried out on Bangkok only aroused the hostility and the will of vengeance of the Thais, according to reports from that city.

In this connection, Samakhi Thai voiced Thailand's resolute determination in a radio address made on the night of December 25.

"My dear fellow countrymen!" he addressed the public. "You suffered from flood at this time last year and now you have been suffering from enemy bombings. In violent and indiscriminate bombing raids, the Anglo-Americans killed and wounded many helpless old men, youngsters and women. By carrying out all-out bombings on Bangkok, the enemy has turned this city into another London. Let them try more raids. It would be awfully pleasant for us to bomb New York and London in the future.

"The Anglo Americans are torturing us now like grown-up men teasing youngsters. But, remember! When the war is over, the Thais will never fail to catch the Americans and British and put the bitter juice of red pepper into their mouths. We wish that day will come as early as possible.

"Bangkok can be destroyed much more easily than Berlin, Rome, London and Tokyo but if the enemy air-raids are carried out excessively, the bombs will penetrate Bangkok and reach America and Britain.

"We have now finished the high school course of bombings. There are university course of bombing raids. Having been accustomed to air raids since last year, the Thais no longer shiver even in the course of inhuman attacks. We shall be able to get along all right when we are graduated from universities of bombings. Then, Anglo-American air raids on Thailand will become more difficult.

"I and my wife have so far been absorbed in golf but we have resolutely decided to discontinue playing it because it is a game which the Americans and British, inhuman races, like."

P.I. HOME GOODS POPULAR

New Record Made in X'mas Sale of Domestic-Made Articles

Domei

MANILA, December 30.—The English vernacular, Tribune, published in Manila, reports that a new record has been established in the Christmas sales this year of articles made in the Philippine homes. The article runs in gist as follows:

"In a few weeks prior to Christmas a new record was set in the sales of products made by the Philippine family industries. At bazaars, retail stores and in the markets the home-made articles sold at a rate far surpassing expectations. The big demand for these Philippine home-made articles has served to open the eyes of the Filipinos to the fact that the Philippines could produce articles that are fully comparable or superior to imported goods. Toilet articles and furniture, not to mention foodstuff, were bought up in large quantities."

FILIPINOS AWAITING ARRIVAL OF HIRAIDE AS NAVAL ATTACHE

Greet Navy Ministry Announcement With Joy; Recall Captain's Achievements

VOICE DEEP ADMIRATION

President Laurel, Envoy Murata Attend Art Exhibit Sponsored by Kalibapi

Domei

MANILA, December 29.—Observers hailed the Japanese Navy Ministry's announcement of the appointment of Captain Hideo Hiraide, former sectional Chief of the Navy Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters, as Naval Attache to the Japanese Embassy in the Philippines, declaring: "Captain Hiraide is famous throughout the country as the fiery spokesman of the Imperial Navy. His arrival is eagerly anticipated."

"As the Sectional Chief of the Navy Press Section," they added, "Captain Hiraide's stirring narration of the exploits of the Japanese Armada accomplished a great deal in creating locally the deepest respect and admiration for the prowess and might of the Japanese Navy. His scorching speeches against the Anglo-Americans struck a responsive chord in the hearts of the Filipinos."

Asserting that the name of the new Naval Attache has become well known not only in the Philippines but throughout East Asia, observers said: "The Filipinos are proud to have such a distinguished naval officer in their midst. His presence will, no doubt, bolster the staff of the Japanese Embassy here and further its prestige."

Invited to Art Exhibit

Domei

MANILA, December 29.—Leading Filipinos and Japanese, including President Jose P. Laurel and Shozo Murata, Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines, have been invited to the national art exhibition sponsored by the Kalibapi on the ground floor of the Bunka Kaikan.

Works of famous Filipino painters, sculptors, and architects will be on display, including the art collections of Jorge B. Vargas, Philippine Ambassador to Japan. Formally opening on December 30, the exhibition will last two weeks.

Describes Philippine Flag

Domei

MANILA, December 28.—"The Philippine flag is the indelible proof of political independence," declared Jose Bautista, solicitor of the Bureau of Justice, in a radio address. "This national emblem," he added, "typifies the soul of the Filipino race in the common struggle for liberty, and is a symbol of the achievement of the cherished ideal to guide our own destinies, and to be on an equal footing in concert with all free nations."

He continued: "This patriotism instils into one's mind that public spirit which, first and foremost, puts the dignity and welfare of one's

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OGAWA CALLS ON BA MAW

Is First Official Call; Pledges Wholehearted Assistance

Domei

RANGOON, December 29.—Dr. Gotaro Ogawa, Supreme Adviser to the Burmese Government, made his first official call on Head of State and Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw this morning.

"I met Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw, twice in Tokyo, but I saw him this morning for the first time in my capacity as Supreme Adviser to the Burmese Government," Dr. Ogawa said, after his official call. "I found him healthy and active as usual, and I am convinced that he is strong enough to bear the responsibility of guiding Burma. I intend to do my best to give Burma whatever assistance I can."

Morishige Back in P.I.

Domei

MANILA, December 29.—Tateo Morishige, Counsellor of the Japanese Embassy in the Philippines, returned here yesterday afternoon from Japan where he conferred with Tokyo officials on Embassy matters.

Spanish Falangists Break Into American, British Consulates

Domei

LISBON, December 28.—Some members of the Falangist Party, dissatisfied with the attitude of the United States Government, recently broke into the United States Consulate at Madrid, while several other members of the party also broke into the British Consulate and insulted the Vice-Consul, according to reports from Madrid. The Spanish Government has placed those who took part in the act under arrest, it is also reported.

U.S. CASUALTIES IRK PROPAGANDA CHIEF

Attacks Wallace's Remarks That Foretelling Losses Dampen Yanks' Morale

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 29.—Regarding the warning issued by a certain high-ranking official. That "within the next 90 days, United States casualties will probably reach 500,000," Palmer Hoyt, Propaganda Director of the United States Office of War Information, bitterly assailed such a statement as tearing down the morale of the people, according to a Washington dispatch.

He attacked that lecturing to the people and exposing future perils is injurious to the people's will to fight.

Frank announcements of the actual war results will do much more to enhance their war spirit, he declared adding that recently the heavy blows sustained by the United States forces by the Japanese on Tarawa Island were immediately revealed to the people. This frank admission did more to heighten the people's fighting spirit than a volume of lectures, he emphasized.

Bitterly hitting the statement made by the high-ranking official, he stated that preliminary announcements of casualties only help to diminish the people's war spirit.

Informal quarters here revealed that the certain high-ranking official Hoyt referred to is none other than Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, and that the above incident has only served to reveal the bitter anguish of the American people as a result of the recent announcements of the United States casualty lists. Furthermore, the news was received here as foretelling the stupendous losses sustained by the United States forces in the Pacific arena.

Japan Making Enemy Pay
Special to the Nippon Times

BERLIN, December 29.—Dealing with the latest big Japanese successes in the Pacific, the Berliner Boersenzeitung states that on reviewing the list of the American ships sunk and planes downed by the Japanese Forces, one can get a correct and complete picture of the war in the Southern Pacific which is increasingly becoming a war of attrition, unbearably costly for the Americans who are forced to cover great distances in order to make their attacks.

Since the Japanese are holding strategic key points, the paper points out, they are able, if necessary, to change their fronts or to make insignificant shifts from one island to another. The enemy is forced to pay dearly for every probing of the Japanese positions, and for every attempt to gain a few kilometers of beach which could be used for air bases for which he must pay with losses out of all proportion to the strategically insignificant gains.

The Japanese, the paper emphasizes, are now reaping the fruits of their daring and splendid operations which, during the first phase of the war in the Pacific, placed them in possession of those countless islands which are easy to defend, and against which the Americans are now rushing.

2 Australian Scribes Killed

Domei

LISBON, December 28.—Two war correspondents were killed and two others injured when a combat plane on which they were traveling to Cape Gloucester, New Britain Island, crashed in New Guinea on Sunday, according to a report from the headquarters of General Douglas MacArthur. Those killed were Pendil A. Rayner, 34, reporter for the Brisbane Telegraph, and Brydon Taves, 29, Australian manager for the United Press.

NIPPON UNITS CHECK ENEMY AIR ATTACKS ON S. PACIFIC BASES

Ground Forces at Kavieng, Shortland Island and New Ireland Repulse All Raids

4 PLANES ARE SHOT DOWN

Japanese Forces at Rabaul in High Spirits Despite Continuing Air Battles

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 30.—Japanese Ground Units repulsed about five large-sized enemy planes which attempted to attack Kavieng, New Ireland Island, at dawn of December 29. No damage was suffered by our side.

4 Planes Downed
Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 30.—Four enemy raiders out of a large formation of 87 deck-planes which attempted to raid our positions on Shortland Island on the morning of December 28 were shot down by anti aircraft batteries of the Japanese Ground Units garrisoned there. No damage was suffered by our side.

Enemy Attack Foiled
Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 30.—A total of 17 large and medium-sized enemy planes in two raids came attacking the northern part of New Ireland Island as well as Kavieng, New Ireland Island, on the night of December 27 but all the raiders fled in the face of strong resistance by our Garrison Forces, which sustained no damage.

Morale Is High

In spite of the most terrific offensive battles now raging at Rabaul, New Britain Island, the Japanese soldiers garrisoned there are maintaining high morale, it was disclosed by Lieutenant-Colonel X, Commander of the XX Unit at that base, who recently arrived at an undisclosed base, according to Domei.

"More and more enemy planes," declared Lieutenant-Colonel X, "are attacking Rabaul. Bent on overwhelming the Japanese with their quantitative superiority, enemy airmen have recently become very 'bold'. But their 'bravery' is more like the rashness characteristic of aviators who are not accustomed to fighting.

"I will give one example of this fact. To avoid blind bombings by enemy planes, we usually shelter ourselves in dugouts. Enemy aircraft dive in a very spectacular manner but their bombs drop into the sea. Then, the foe's planes, finding themselves dashing against mountain-sides, hurriedly change their course. The enemy airmen, however, inevitably find themselves unequal to the difficult task and are forced to land on the sea.

"As Japanese soldiers find shelter in dugouts to avoid meaningless sacrifices by blind bombings, antiaircraft guns open a barrage of fire against enemy raiders. The Amer-

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17 ENEMY AIRPLANES HIT IN RAID ON SUICHUAN BASE

Results of Fierce Japanese Attack on Airfield on December 27 Confirmed

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN CENTRAL CHINA, December 30.—It is now confirmed that in the air raid made by Imperial Army Air Units on Suichuan airfield, Kiangsi Province, on December 27, 18 enemy planes were shot down and damaged.

A large formation of our fighter and bomber planes appeared over Suichuan at 2:30 p.m. on that day, and for 20 minutes fought more than 20 enemy planes. In this fierce battle, our units succeeded in shooting down 8 P-40s (two uncertain), and two P-31's (one uncertain), or a total of 10 planes. Also they attacked seven North-American B 25's and one P 40 on the ground, and succeeded in setting ablaze two B-25's and one P 40, as well as also damaging five B-25's.

On our side, four planes were self-blasted.

LAUREL DESIGNATES P.I. LEGAL HOLIDAYS

Greater East Asia Day Among Those Named; Cutting Trees Also Banned in Islands

Domei

MANILA, December 28.—Two more bills, the first fixing the legal holidays of the year in the Republic of the Philippines and the second, prohibiting the cutting of trees in public and private lands where water springs or mineral reservoirs exist as well as providing penalties to violators were signed yesterday by President Jose P. Laurel.

The legal holidays in the Republic are as follows: New Year's Day and Thanksgiving Day on January 1; Holy Thursday and Good Friday; First Saturday of May, Labor Day; Independence Day, October 14; Memorial Day, November 1; National Heroes' Day, November 30; Kalibapi Day, December 4; Greater East Asia Day, December 8; Christmas Day, December 25; Rizal Day, December 30, and all Sundays.

The new law provides that when a legal holiday falls on Sunday, the succeeding day will be observed as the legal holiday.

Revamping Educational Laws

Domei

MANILA, December 28.—In order to facilitate and revamp the educational curricula in the Philippines in consonance with the new reorientation policy of the present administration, President Jose P. Laurel today reorganized the Text Book Committee and named Jorge Bocobo, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, as its new chairman. The Committee is composed entirely of Filipino educators.

Constabulary Officers Promoted

Domei

MANILA, December 28.—Upon recommendation of Vice-Minister of the Interior Major-General Guillermo Francisco, 141 officers of the Philippine Constabulary were promoted by President Jose P. Laurel recently.

The promotion list includes seven majors elevated to lieutenant-colonels, 18 captains to majors, 29 first-lieutenants to captains, and 88 second-lieutenants to first-lieutenants.

Aliens to Register

Domei

MANILA, December 28—The annual registration of aliens in the Philippines will be held from January 3 to April 31 under the auspices of the Census and Statistics Bureau, the Ministry of the Interior announced today.

Recurrent Strikes Prove Costly Blow For U.S. Industries

(Continued from Page 1)

production but also production in other related vital industries.

Murray's instructions were dispatched a few minutes after the War Labor Board had issued the orders to steel operators incorporating Roosevelt's suggestion that retroactive pay should be guaranteed.

Steel operators had no other alternative than to accept the orders, but most of them expressed their determination to demand increased steel prices to cover the added cost of more pay to workers.

The concessions to both the steel and railroad workers were viewed by many observers as serious blows to the Government's anti-inflation program. Further soaring price levels were predicted as the outcome of these latest settlements.

Steel Strikers Win

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 28—The strike of the members of the Iron and Steel Workers' Union, affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organization, was settled last night as the United States Government yielded to the demand of the workers, according to Washington reports.

The strike assumed a grand scale yesterday morning when the striking workers reached 170,000. As the result, iron and steel plants which were shut down in Central and Western States increased in number.

In the meanwhile, however, negotiations were conducted in Washington between the Government and the workers, and upon reaching a compromise, Philipp Murray, Chairman of the Congress of Industrial Organization, ordered the striking workers to return to work, last night.

According to information reaching Washington from various localities, workers belonging to the Iron and Steel Workers' Union are gradually returning to work this morning. Some factories have not yet resumed their operations this morning, but it is expected that within 48 hours, the iron and steel industry will return again to normal operating condition.

Steel Men Quit Work

Domei

LISBON, December 27.—Approximately 120,000 steel workers were idle on Monday as sweeping stoppage of work cut down operations drastically in the large part of the American war industry, according to Pittsburgh reports.

In Ohio, one of the leading steel centers, nearly 100 per cent of the workers are staying away from their jobs. The strike also spread to mills in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Indiana, Michigan and New York.

The steel workers have adopted the slogan taken up recently by striking American coal miners: "No contracts, no work."

With the situation growing serious, President Roosevelt cut short his Christmas weekend holiday at his residence in Hyde Park, New York, and rushed back to the White House to try to settle not only the steel strikes but also the rail transport trouble, which are threatening to paralyze the American industry.

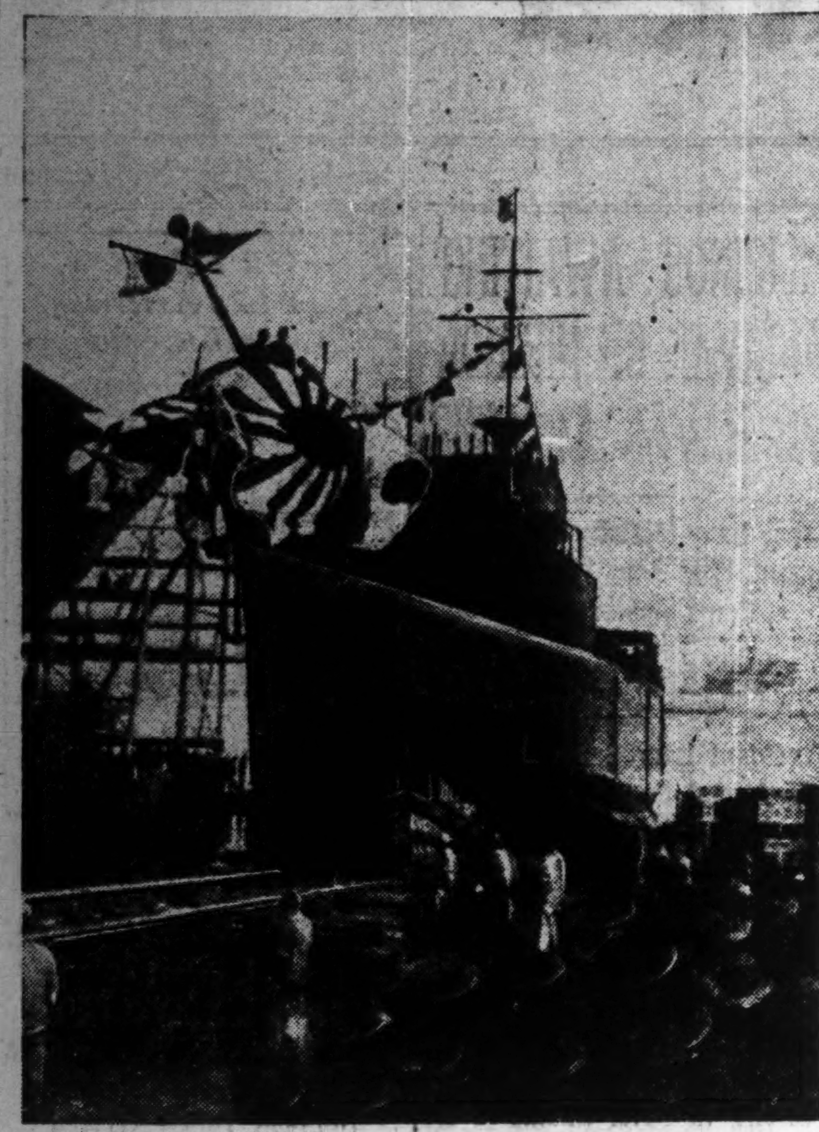
While the majority of the railway workers appear to have finally come around to agreeing to accept Roosevelt's arbitration, the steel workers have so far paid very little attention to the President's appeal for a speedy settlement.

To Train Malaria Experts

Domei

MACASSAR, December 30—In order to combat successfully and to wipe out the dread malaria disease, the authorities of the Military Administration have decided to train native inhabitants in large numbers as malaria experts, and provisional regulations have been formulated recently. The men will be given one year's training at the Macassar Research Institute. The training course is scheduled to open from April next year.

Imperial Navy Bolstered



The new coast-defense ship, Hokoku No. 1, which had been under construction at a certain shipyard in Kansai with funds contributed to the Navy by the patriotic public was launched with due ceremony on the morning of December 29. The launching ceremony was attended by Admiral Seizo Kobayashi, President of the Central Cooperative Council, Junichiro Kobayashi, Director-General of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association and many representatives of contributors in the Osaka-Kobe areas. Amid the stirring strains of naval airs, the Hokoku No. 1. bedecked with flags, slowly glided into the water at 8:30 a.m. as white pigeons flew up from its deck. Those who were present at the ceremony were guests at a luncheon the same day. **Shown above is the new vessel just prior to the official launching.**

(Passed by the Navy Ministry)

Over Million Items Forgotten By Railway Commuters in 1943

An amazing total of 1,200,000 forgotten articles have been gathered at the various railway bureaus throughout the country for the year 1943. The Tokyo Railway Bureau occupies first place, claiming as its share of the lost goods one third of the total, with Osaka, Nagoya, Moji, Hiroshima, Niigata and Sendai following in consecutive order.

Let us take a glance at the Tokyo, Uyeno and Ryogoku stations, with their total of 80 per cent of the entire lost articles handled by the Tokyo Railway Bureau. At Tokyo Station, the main entrance to the Imperial capital, the number of lost articles totaled 45,950 from January to November. Out of this number 2,867 cases concerned monetary losses in cash, amounting to ¥118,396. Compared with the previous year, the number of cases showed a decrease of 12 per cent, but the amount involved showed a marked increase of 35 per cent.

The number of individual cases reported at Uyeno Station was 35,514, with 2,205 cases of cash losses, amounting to a total of ¥62,433.75. Here, again, the number of cases registered a 12 per cent decrease, but the amount of money involved made a big jump of 42 per cent.

Ryogoku Station, had only 6,417 cases with 503 cash losses, totaling ¥10,590.82. Comparison with the previous year shows a decrease of 8 per cent in the number of cases, but registers an increase of 30 per cent in the amount.

There has been a gradual increase in the number of lost articles since 1936, recording 404,118 cases for 1942. Taking 100 as index for 1936, the index for 1943 would be 152, or a 50 per cent increase.

Another astounding fact is that only 37 per cent of the articles are claimed by the owners. Cataloging these articles, hats occupy the first place, with 20 per cent of the total number. Umbrellas follows next on the list. Watches and cameras also come up to a considerable number.

It is interesting to note that money for the most part, approximately 70 per cent, is found within the station precincts, accounted for by the fact that bills and coins probably slipped out of purses when opened by their owners.

Nippon Units Check Enemy Air Attacks On S. Pacific Bases

(Continued from Page 1)

ican planes, muffled in flames, fall into the sea one after another

"Despite all hardships, the officers and men on the front are maintaining high morale. Self sufficiency has already been realized regarding vegetables. We have also overcome malaria. Whereas enemy troops are being replaced by fresh reinforcements every two or three months due to the mounting number of malaria victims caused by the lack of quinine, the Japanese have succeeded in adapting themselves to the unfavorable circumstances on the spot. They are continuing their vigorous activities, fully confident in final victory."

Enemy Commands Revealed

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 28.—The United States Marine corps which landed on Cape Gloucester, New Britain Island, on December 26 are under the command of Rear-Admiral William H. Rupertus, according to an Associated Press report from Melbourne.

Meanwhile, a Reuter dispatch from the same city states that the anti-Axis headquarters in the Southwest Pacific has announced that the landing operation on Cape Gloucester was carried out under general supervision of General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in the Southwest Pacific, and that the land and naval units are respectively under the command of Lieutenant-General Walter C. Krueger and Vice-Admiral Thomas G. Kinkaid.

BRITONS FIND LISBON PARADISE FOR LIVING

Many Holiday Seekers Not Returning Home After X'mas Due to Ample Food

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, December 29.—Numerous Britishers who have been staying in Lisbon for several weeks to spend the Christmas holiday here together with their families as they claim, have not yet made any preparations to return to Britain. They are praising in high terms the excellent food obtainable here and declare that nowhere in Britain is one able to get such good food and not even at high prices.

The fact that this year no special food rations have been allowed in Britain has greatly surprised the British public. It is, therefore, understandable that the spirits of the population in Britain and especially in London are rather low.

The German air raids on British territory are largely contributing to the general feeling of insecurity and dissatisfaction, prevailing in Britain. Although it is pointed out that these air raids are carried out on a minor scale with a small number of planes, their moral effect is nevertheless considerable. Besides, most people in Britain are living in great fear of a German retaliation. This explained why the Londoners usually are running to the air raid shelters as soon as the alert is sounded. Wherever German bombs are dropped, the destructions are indeed very heavy and wild rumors on the effect of the German bombs are current.

The opinion of the British of their allies, it is stated, is typically British. In a conversation with the Americans, they are highly praising the Russians and vice versa. In reality, however, the British have neither any liking for the Russians nor for the Americans. The present collaboration is regarded as an emergency measure and everybody is hoping that it would not last too long.

No Interest in War

Special to the Nippon Times

GENEVA, December 28.—Dealing with the present daily life in England, the New Statesman and Nation criticizes the complacency which is a characteristic feature of the English public today.

The paper added that this year's Christmas time was characterized by the attitude of getting back into the possession of the old comforts as quickly as possible. The people are demanding fuel for private cars, more clothes, more sweets and everything else that was superfluous, the journal declared, adding that trivial attitude is incompatible with the "terrible symptoms" of an offensive in the west.

"This picture of the present time England must be particularly disgusting for those soldiers who are returning home from the fighting in southern Italy," it said for they are telling of catastrophic conditions, prevailing in southern Italy.

"It is difficult to describe them; it is a complete breakdown and there is no trace of culture left in southern Italy, no leadership and no hope for the future" the paper continued. "The Italians in these regions have only one aim,—food! To get food they are selling their sisters, brothers, mothers, daughters, sons and even themselves. The only thing they are clamoring for is to live."

One of these British soldiers in an interview with the paper's correspondent said he had seen men of the 8th British army, veteran soldiers from the desert, who had been physically broken on account of the fact they had seen famished districts in the agricultural areas of southern Italy.

"These men are thoroughly disgusted at the England of the present where the people know of nothing better than to ask "Do you want oranges, or silk stockings or jewels?" the paper said.

ARABS TO HOLD MEETING

Syrian Mission Headed by Foreign Chief Leaves for Iraq

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 29.—The movement to form an Arab League has again become active following the recent Lebanon incident, and an Arab conference is scheduled to be opened shortly.

Despite the eager wish of all Arabian countries, the former attempts to form an Arab League did not progress smoothly because of British underground activities, Jewish problems and other complicated questions.

According to reports from Damascus, the Syrian mission headed by Foreign Minister Mardan Bey has left for Bagdad for a conference with Iraqi representatives. It is also reported that the Syrian Government is planning to dispatch another mission to Saudi Arabi for the same purpose.

Home Front of Germany Still Firm, Avers Ushiba, Now en Route Home

By Arrangement with the Asahi

HARBIN, December 28.—A total absence of unrest in national life and an unshakable home front are among the forcible impressions brought back from Germany by Nobuhiko Ushiba, Second Secretary of the Foreign Office, who served at the Japanese Embassy in Berlin for a period of six years from 1933 and who arrived here on December 26 en route home.

Stressing the solid national unity and Germany's preparedness to deal an annihilative blow to the Anglo-Americans in the event of their making an incursion into Europe, Mr. Ushiba gave his impressions in the following vein:

"There is no unrest in the national life of Germany. Currency circulation exceeds the availability of commodities, but inflation is completely curbed. This is a wonder of the world.

"With Europe favored with rich crops this year, there is no worry over the food situation. Views are heard that the giving up of the Ukraine will have a serious effect. The fact is, however, that the food produced in that area has been supplied to the Reich forces on the spot. Again, Germany depends more on agricultural produce produced west of the Dnieper than on the Ukrainan crops. Even if the Ukraine were lost completely, it would have negligible effect on the whole food situation of Germany.

"Some take a serious view of the American raid on the Ploesti oilfields in Rumania. Well, Ploesti was bombed only once and that was in the spring of this year. Air raids on Rumania are said to be technically difficult, and this is evidenced by the absence of bombing raids since. Then, again, the productive capacity in Ploesti is such that it can be increased by 150 or 200 per cent. No apprehension, therefore, need be felt over the oil question in Rumania.

No Commodity Shortage

"The supply of daily necessities is smooth. It is unthinkable that commodity shortage will ever endanger internal collapse. To be sure, beef rations have been decreased, but, on the other hand, bread rations have recently been increased to ten kilos every four weeks and points rations from three or three and a half kilos per week. These figures are for the ordinary citizens. Heavy laborers get from half as much again to three times.

"The National Socialists stand on a solid footing. They are in complete harmony with the people. It is an error to think of the National Socialists as apart from the people. Indeed, it can be said that the war-prosecuting strength comes from the solid footing, well-established organization and efficient operation of the National Socialists. The progress of the National Socialists is quite similar to the development of our Tonarigumi (neighborhood association) system.

"Clearance, cooking, supply of clothing and such work after air raids are undertaken by the N.S.V. (Popular Welfare Corps), an offshoot of the National Socialists. This organization is found in every nook and corner of the country.

"The most salient features in Germany are education of the young and the social policy. They are fulfilling an important role in solidifying the home front. The beneficial effect of the education to the Hitler Jugend is clearly seen. This education has gone a long way toward inculcating the concept of discipline, obligation, obedience and devotion to public duties.

"Amusement is generously given to laborers and farmers. Free reservations a week ahead are allowed. On holidays they are taken to resorts. The resort at Baeruth, famous for the Wagner opera staged every summer, is today placed entirely at the disposal of laborers and farmers, who go there as guests of Fuehrer Hitler.

"German laborers have a pride in their work. They do not change their jobs for higher pay. This gives stability to productivity in Germany. Factory people are regarded as 'national treasures.'

European Fort Strong

"The Fortress of Europe is literally impregnable. Fully prepared to deliver an annihilative blow to the Anglo-Americans, the Germans are looking forward to an enemy invasion attempt.

"This is fully evidenced by the progress of the war situation since the anti-Axis landing in Italy, and by the fact that the one division under the command of Marshal Hermann Goering successfully checked a huge Anglo-American force in Catania.

"The Reich forces have implicit confidence in their ability to meet the Anglo-Americans. In the withdrawal from Sicily, every soldier, without exception, was withdrawn, a fact which the enemy admits. Again, German military strength in France and in the Balkans is stronger than is imagined.

"Reverting to the home front, it is said that female laborers outnumber the male. In fact, all women work in factories. Office work is not recognized. Everybody works in the factory. With bars closed, waitresses are working as factory hands, tram conductress or postwomen. They are cheerful because they are proud of the fact that they are helping to forward war prosecution. Married women without children are also engaged in labor. Even those with children engage in labor, if family conditions permit.

"Women of the leisured class are no more. There are no women troops, to be sure, but 'blitz girls' in uniforms are going out in increasing numbers to the occupied areas and there work in the 'bureaus.' Rouge has been completely done away with by German girls.

"On the principle that amusement is meant to lighten wartime burdens on the people, war films are not shown. The people are too war-conscious to need war films. Such is the amusement policy in Germany.

"Popular amusement is steadily being increased. For one thing, beer halls are still retained. For a Mark or two you can have beer, potato and vegetables to the full."

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CONGRESS SEEN IRED AS ROOSEVELT MUM

Failure to Confide in Legislators After Europe Call Widens Rift

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, December 29.—The rift between President Roosevelt and Congress has become further widened with members of the U.S. legislative body furious over the despotic and aloof attitude of the President who has almost ignored the existence of Congress, ever since his return to Washington, according to reports from the U.S. capital to the Aftonbladet.

Dissatisfaction is rampart within the United States Congress of late, because, since his return to Washington recently, President Roosevelt is believed to have ignored that body. This despotic attitude is now being criticized by members of Congress, and it is rumored that there are even some who insist that some retaliation must be made against the President in a form to make difficult the post-war cooperation with Britain, the Soviet Union and Chungking.

Even respecting internal problems, the discord between the President and Congress is worsening. Some are also pointing out that even concerning internal questions the President's attitude is aggravating the relation between the Chief Executive and Congress. The President gave the report of his recent journey directly to the fighting forces and the public in his Christmas broadcast, before he had revealed it to Congress.

Those closely connected with the President are worrying about his tendency to act independently. It is, however, reported that realizing the dissatisfaction of Congress, President Roosevelt told its spokesman that if necessary he would make a report to Congress. Hearing this hint, Congressmen directly questioned the President whether he had any intention of making his report first to Congress, but he acted as though he was much surprised and had never heard of such a plan.

What he revealed in his broadcast was the report to be included in his message to Congress to be made in January.

Nishimura Going to Vichy

Kumao Nishimura, member of the General War Research Office and Foreign Office Secretary, was appointed Embassy Counsellor to be stationed in France, the Foreign Office announced yesterday. Also it was announced that Shotaro Goda, Embassy Counsellor in France, was relieved of his post and appointed Counsellor in Sweden.

Filipinos Awaiting Arrival of Hiraide As Naval Attache

(Continued from Page 1)

country before personal convenience."

"The present era for the Philippines," emphasized Mr. Bautista, "is of momentous and transcendental significance. As the Philippines faces the new year, the Filipinos are reaping the blessineg of peace, graciously consoled by the thought that the flag now hoisted in the Oriental sky is receiving the unyielding allegiance and unswerving loyalty of eighteen million citizens."

Best X'mas Gift

Domei

MANILA, December 27.—The rarest and most precious Christmas gift this year was Philippine independence, declared Mrs. Feliza Tajanlagit, teacher and writer, in a radio broadcast on the occasion of the Christmas observance in the Philippines. She said: "Our first Christmas under the Republic was the happiest ever, for we celebrated the Lord's birth under our very own flag for the first time."

All around could be seen a new spirit among the people to become more useful, worthy, and public-spirited, instilled with a fervor and initiative to work—to cultivate the lands, to harness other resources which had been lying useless and dormant for years past.

"Christmas this year," continued Mrs. Tajanlagit, "was, indeed, celebrated with the spirit of a truly liberated people. Our laughter of contentment, peace, gladness, and our fervent and sincere prayers for the long life, strength, and prosperity of the Philippine Republic, and for the betterment of the Filipino race, and for peace and brotherhood among all nations, were enough to make our first Christmas under the Republic worth remembering and cherishing in the future!"

NAVAL, AIR CHIEFS NAMED

Ramsay, Mallory Picked to Head Invasion Forces for Europe

Domei

LISBON, December 29.—Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay, who supervised the anti-Axis landings in Sicily and Salerno, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Invasion Forces for Western Europe, it was officially announced in London according to a dispatch received here.

It was also announced that Air Chief Marshal Sir Strafford Leigh Mallory, has been named Commander-in-Chief of the Air Invasion Forces for Europe, under U.S. General Dwight Eisenhower, newly-appointed Commander-in-Chief of the anti Axis Army Invasion Forces.

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BURMA DRAFTS PLAN TO BOOST FARMING

Greater Output in Foodstuff, Developing Jute, Cattle Industries Are Outlined

In accordance with the New Order Plan promulgated by Dr. Ba Maw, Head of State and Prime Minister of Burma, for the creation of a New Burma to the status of a powerful and flourishing State in the brotherhood of nations in Greater East Asia, the Ministry for Lands and Agriculture has come forward with a plan, searching and comprehensive in its scope, to meet and cover all agricultural problems that face the newly-reborn Burma, states the Rangoon newspaper, Greater Asia.

Burma is a land of agriculturists, and the scheme covers the most important departments in agriculture, its aim and purpose being to promote the welfare of the agriculturists and the growth of agriculture on an economic basis of self-sufficiency in the State, and for the successful consummation of the war.

In direct contrast to the British, in the treatment of the people's food problem, the Burmese Government has in this scheme made every provision for tackling the food problem in Burma. The purchase of fifty-two million baskets of paddy for sale to the people at a controlled price not only improves the tone of the market, but also solves the marketing problem of the agriculturists. This is but one of the many steps taken by this Ministry for the amelioration of the people's lot and other likewise enlightening measures need mention.

Cotton Industry

In the past Burma has depended for her cotton goods from other countries, but beginning with the current year, the Burmese Government has taken steps to increase and improve the growth of cotton in Burma. The Association of Burma Cotton Undertakers and the Burma Control Board will be formed to delve into and improve cotton problems. The Government's scheme to be the sole purchaser and distributor of cotton, has come as a saver to all previous problems regarding the growth and manufacture of the cotton industry. With the Government taking the initiative and responsibility, Burma's cotton industry is assured of a flourishing future.

Jute Manufacture

The temporary dislocation of communications with India brought up the problem of gunny bags for the transport of paddy. But New Burma, undaunted by such problems, has solved it by the introduction of jute to the uncultivated paddy lands. The Burma Asa Union has been formed to promote jute cultivation.

Ten thousand acres have been covered and the result is gratifying for a new departure in the field of Burma's agricultural history. A steady increase yearly is anticipated and the Burmese Government is mainly responsible for facilitation of the transport of paddy problem.

The introduction of jute manufacture is also of great utility in the fishing industry. Self-sufficiency in jute manufacture will go a long way in bringing Burma up to front line conditions.

Another departure from the orthodox schemes is the encouragement of cattle and poultry breeding. For this purpose, the Ministry for Finance has sanctioned a sum of 500,000 rupees. Boards have been formed in the districts to promote this branch of agriculture and loans will be granted to the people to encourage these in an occupation which will be of the utmost benefit to the people and to the State.

Veterinary surgeons are being sent out to the districts to supervise the health and condition of cattle.

The scheme also makes provisions for the solution of the land question and the Government has the following measures under consideration:—(1) The Land Purchase Scheme, (2) the Land Alienation Scheme, (3) the Land Tenancy Scheme and (4) the [illegible]ntrol of Ownerless and Enemy-[illegible]d Paddy Lands.

[illegible] setting up of Co-operative Associations has gone a long way to ameliorate the financial conditions of the agriculturists. The scheme provides for the establishment of these societies in every part of Burma. The Government Co-operative Commercial School at Rangoon helps great deal in teaching and infusing in the people the benefit of the co-operative idea, and this is but a step further for promotion of the economic and commercial progress.

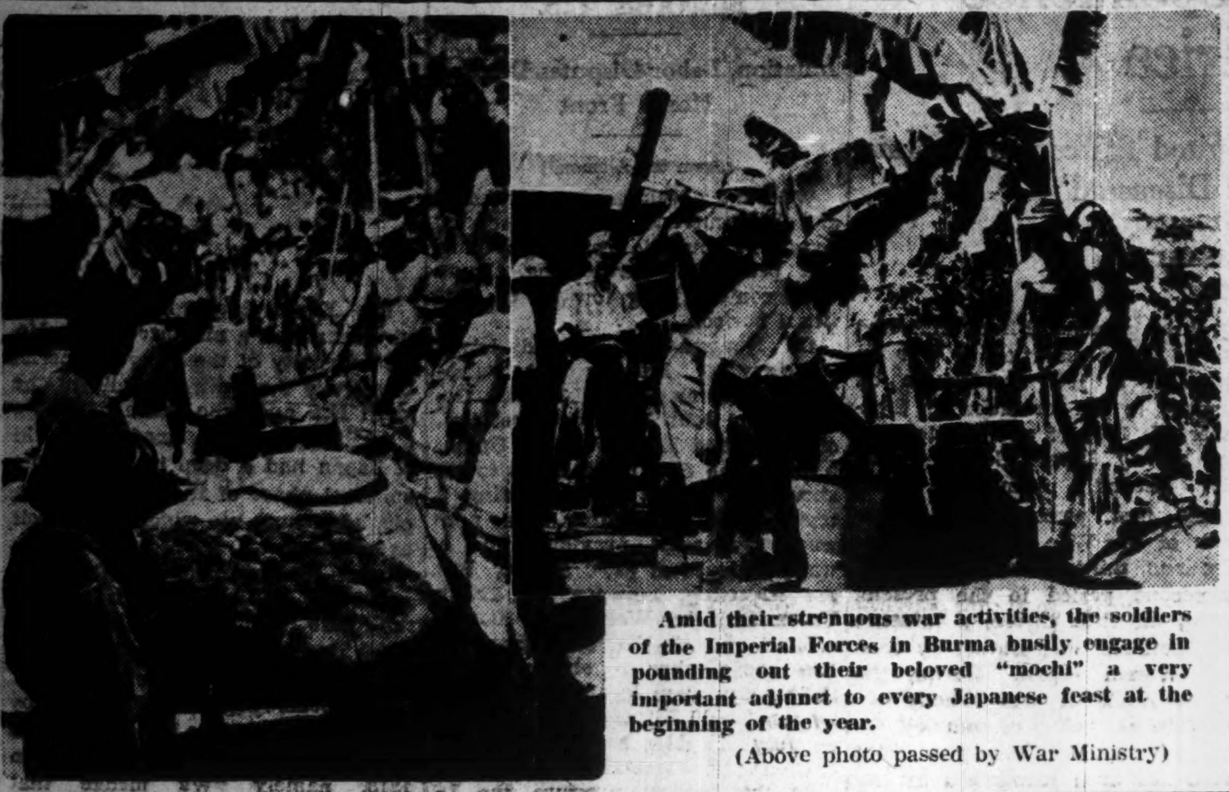
Fishing Industry

Previously, the fishing industry was only a source of revenue to the Government, but this agricultural new order scheme has also planned to bring it up to a flourishing industry on an economic basis. The systematization of the fishing industry, the breeding of species not found in Burma, the initiation of deep sea fishing and the setting up of canning industry are entirely new enterprises that come within the scope of this scheme.

Burma has always been a purely agricultural country, but with the rebirth of an independent Burma, the agricultural (new order plan) scheme, also provides for the introduction, promotion and growth of agricultural industries. Burma is a land of abundant raw material and had hitherto only lacked the stimulus to expand her industrial propensities. The Burmese Government has undertaken to encourage and teach the people industrial manufacture such as paper-manufacture, liquor distillation, petrol refinery and soap manufacture. These are the beginnings of the industrialization of Burma, and with the abundant raw material at hand, Burma is well on the way to establishing herself as an industrial as well as an agricultural nation.

Finally, the cultivation of groundnut and sessamum crops are to be increased by one and a half times to meet the demand and such increase in crops that are among the staple food of the people only goes to show that the Burmese Government has the welfare of the State in hand and that self-sufficiency will soon be made possible in the New Burma State. All with self-sufficiency, the war may last for many years to come, but Burma is ready to meet front line conditions and fight for the successful prosecution of the war.

Readying for New Year Feast



Amid their strenuous war activities, the soldiers of the Imperial Forces in Burma busily engage in pounding out their beloved "mochi" a very important adjunct to every Japanese feast at the beginning of the year.

(Above photo passed by War Ministry)

Australians Depend Fully on America

(Continued From Page 4)

period, and Japan came to cross swords with both the United States and Britain, Australia rose with a definite determination to defend herself and came to harbor a great hatred for Japan. At the same time the Commonwealth made a round-about-face in her diplomatic policy and sought American aid. Before the sweeping advance of the Japanese Forces over the entire area of the Southern Region following the Japanese victory at Pearl Habor, the Commonwealth realized the inevitability of depending on the United States which was the leader of the anti-Axis forces in the Pacific war zone. This decision was dictated by the geographical environment of Australia if by anything else.

Then too, many other factors conspired to intensify Australia's diplomatic policy of reliance on the United States. With the shifting of he pendulum of war from the European theater to the Pacific area as a result of the War of Greater East Asia, the people of Australia came to feel the need of relying more and more upon American power. Hard-pressed by the difficulty of European hostilities, Britain was not in a position to extend her helping hand to Australia in the latter's greatest need and much complaint against Britain was heard among the masses. They knew what great sacrifices the Australian troops made in Greece and Crete as well as in the Malay and Singapore operations, and regarded Britain's help "as always too late and too little." The dissatisfaction of the Commonwealth people further increased after the wholesale retreat of the British forces from East Asia, it was even reflected in Australian political circles. This national discontent toward the attitude and actions of Britain intensified their desire for dependence on America.

When General MacArthur went to Australia following his defeat in the Bataan Peninsula by the Japanese Forces, he was made Commander-in-Chief of the Allied forces in the Southwest Pacific, thereby bringing the Australian forces under his command and Prime Minister Curtin could meet him only as a representative of the Australian troops. After the command of the Australian forces passed into the hands of General MacArthur, the United States came to pay closer attention to Australia and to claim greater rights there. So far as military matters were concerned, the fate of the Commonwealth was placed in the grip of the United States. This, of course, did not mean complete severance of relations between Britain and Australia, for the latter continued her tradition political and economic ties with the mother country.

Strengthened Dependence

The conclusion of a treaty between Australia and the United States mutually pledging to assist each other, is another factor which made Australia dependent upon America. By virtue of this treaty, the United States was to deliver arms and ammunition to Australia in exchange for the latter's assistance to the American forces in the following activities; to supply provisions, to repair damaged vessels, to transport munition supplies, and to supply such material resources as wool, minerals and others of wartime importance.

The fact that Australia must wholly dependent upon America for her arms and ammunition seems to have bred a serious state of affairs in the Commonwealth. There is a proposal in certain quarters in that country to give a sort of extraterritorial right to the United States to garrison her troops there which, if realized, would be a repetition of what once was China's fate. Because of this display of over-respect toward the United States by the Australian people, American soldiers in the Commonwealth have been reported to be inclined to act arrogantly against the Australians. Some of them even have gone to the length of violating the sacredness of Australian homes in the absence of their masters, and have been a great cause of moral decadence in Australia's home front. The more serious-minded citizens in Australia are highly apprehensive of the apparent over-mastering ambitions of America during and after the war. As the matter stands at present, Australia is fast becoming an American State—the 49th State—if you please—which these and the thinking people of the Commonwealth are in fear that Australia will be offered upon the altar of American imperialism.

Australia should not lose her head in the present crisis. She should remember that, prior to the outbreak of the Pacific War, Japan was her great trade customer second only to Britain. Moreover, she should remember too, that at one time she zealously sought to avoid friction with Japan and tried to maintain economic relations with her. "The Paradise of the Pacific" is possible only with peace with Japan. Australia should immediately quit the anti-Japanese camp and return to her "glorious isolation." The people of Australia should recall the repeated appeals made by Prime Minister General Tojo: "If Australia should lay down arms Japan will not show any act of hostility. But so long as she remains a wing of the enemy front, Japan shall determinedly crush the Australian troops to the last man."

Second Undersea Link With Kyushu Set as Boring Project Is Climaxed

Japan's engineering skill and daring has succeeded in boring another undersea tunnel beneath the eddying currents of the Inland Sea to link Japan Proper with Kyushu and thus to strengthen the transportation lines leading to all parts of Greater East Asia. The second undersea passage is scheduled to be bored through today, climaxing the efforts of over three years.

The work on the second Kanmon Tunnel was started in August 1940, and the triumphant pean of victory in the engineering field will ring exactly three years and four months since the start of the project, and one year and one month after the first passenger train roared through the first tunnel.

The construction of the tunnel was undertaken amid many retarding conditions on account of the China Affair and the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. However, all obstacles were superbly overcome and the work completed before the scheduled time. That such an epochal undertaking should be so speedily and marvelously completed attests to the high level of Japan's engineering skill and to the unflinching, united wartime structure of the entire nation.

The two undersea tunnels, closely linking Japan Proper with Kyushu, will soon play a vital role in bolstering the nation's production front and the efficiency of wartime transportation.

As we rejoice over the completion of such a wonderful engineering feat in a nation engaged in a stupendous war, we must also give due honor and praise to the men who gave their unstinting, supreme efforts for the successful consummation of the project.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

December 29,

North of Kirovograd our troops captured several localities in the face of tough enemy resistance. In surprise thrusts they smashed the Soviet deployments.

In the area of Zhitomir, the enemy intensified his attacks. In fierce fighting the enemy spearheads of attack were checked southeast of Zhitomir. Further to the north, all Soviet attacks were stopped. Altogether 41 enemy tanks were destroyed in this fighting. After strong artillery preparation, the Soviets yesterday launched an attack with numerous tanks also in the area of Korosten. Embittered fighting is going on.

At Vitobsk, all enemy attempts at breaking through were frustrated. In immediately launched counter-thrusts, the Soviets were thrown back after fierce fighting.

In southern Italy, the day was quiet with the exception of an abortive enemy attack north of Venafro.

In the course of the day, 26 United States heavy-type bombers, escorted by fighters, penetrated the area of northern Italy. German fighters shot down 20 bombers in aerial combats while two were shot down by anti-aircraft artillery. Four German fighters were lost whose pilots, however, succeeded in bailing out in time. On the Italian west coast, two American fighters were downed.

In the morning hours of December 28, the British tried to launch a commando enterprise against the Channel island of Sark. The enterprise was frustrated in the dense mine fields of the coast. The enemy left behind several dead.

In the waters of the Bay of Biscay, encounters took place between German and British light naval forces between December 27 and 29. The air forces of both sides joined in these actions. In the course of fierce engagements, damage was caused on both sides.

Last night, few British planes made nuisance raids on western German territory.

OGATA GIVEN PROMOTION

Asahi's Chief Editor Made Vice-President of Firm

Taketora Ogata, Editor-in-Chief of the Asahi Shimbun, has been appointed Vice-President of that paper and Toyojiro Kimura, managing director, has been made its representative in Western Japan.

Other principal shifts include the appointment of Joji Harada and Kichinai Kitano as chief and vice-chief, respectively, of the editorial department, of Yujiro Chiba as chief of the editorial adjustment and assignment bureau and of Tamotsu Katsuki as chief of the information bureau.

GERMANS RIDICULE INVASION RANTINGS

Reich Unmoved by Foe's Propaganda; Will Welcome Second Front

Domei

BERLIN, December 29.—Authorized local quarters discounted as "invasion propaganda" the welter of material published during the past few days by the Anglo-American press on the invasion of Europe. Wilhelmstrasse circles pointed out that the British and Americans, during the past 24 hours, have dished out approximately 20 pages of material relating to the move.

Such contradictory statements as that by General Dwight Eisenhower, new Commander-in Chief of the anti-Axis invasion forces, that they will win the war next year and General Bernard Montgomery's view that caution should be observed in the anti-Axis camp are being noted here with absolute calm.

Local quarters say that such enemy announcements have been heard often enough. They even admit that there are certain connections between the loud political activities in the press and the awaited military operation which is usually made as silently as possible. They emphasize that the Germans have been long counting on the possibility of such an invasion being undertaken in view of the repeated demands by Premier Stalin and there is no element of surprise.

The pending opening of a second front in Europe is a serious issue not only to Germany but also to the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union. If the proposed second front is actually opened and the attempt fails, the so-called construction of a new order of the world by the anti-Axis nations will meet a big setback. In this sense, the world attention is now directed toward this question.

While various discussions on the second front question are now being made, the conference of diplomatic officials of Sweden held at Stockholm on December 9 and 10 is said to have reached a conclusion that both Germany and the Soviet Union still have a fairly large surplus military strength, and it will be difficult for the United States and Britain to actually open a second front until next March or April, even though they are rushing their preparations.

The establishment of the headquarters for directing the operation against Europe was announced on December 24, and Eisenhower was appointed the commander-in-chief. In this connection, it is reported that the United States will throw 10 per cent and Britain 70 per cent of the forces to be used for this operation. It is also said that the total military strength to be used will be 80 divisions, composed of 56 American Divisions and 24 British divisions. But these forces are considered to be much smaller than what will be actually required.

Another report says that the United States and Britain are now concentrating the required military strength. Britain is aiming to assemble 75 divisions in Britain, 30 divisions in Algiers, 25 divisions in Cyprus Island and 20 dvisions in South Italy, or a total or 150 divisions.

Judging from the above distribution of forces, it is seen that Western Europe will be the central area of operation with the forces in Algiers being used for the operation against Southern France, and those in Cyprus Island for the Balkans.

Although ever since November last year, both the United States and Britain had hesitated and delayed the opening of a second front despite Soviet wishes, they have now been forced to start the dangerous and risky operation because of the increasingly persistent demands of the Soviet Union.

But, Germany welcomes a second front attempt as a good opportunity to smash the enemy.

Foe's Defeat Seen

BERLIN, December 29.—Under the headline "Hazard of Invasion," the Berliner Boersenzeitung dissects the enemy comments on this "most dangerous part of the war".

The British were right to believe, the paper declares, that the German defense forces were holding trump-cards in their hands that might make the invasion of the continent the "most complicated, dangerous and difficult undertaking of this war".

With regard to the British contribution to this operation it is pointed out that Britain again endeavored to spare her soldiers as much as possible and to make others fight for her. Germany had proved, the paper states, that she could not be defeated from the air and less on land.

She was, therefore, calmly waiting for the invasion, ordered by the Soviets the journal added. Everybody in Germany was convinced that the landing would end with a terrible defeat for the anti-Axis, it concluded.

Yankees in Pacific Like Tokyo Music, Says Gary Cooper

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 29.—Gary Cooper, famed Hollywood screen actor, who has just returned from Australia and New Guinea where he gave performances for the troops declared that the United States soldiers prefer to hear nice music broadcast from Tokyo instead of excessive propaganda of American radio and films, according to a Hollywood dispatch received here.

Banker Sasaki Dies

Yunosuke Sasaki, for many years president of the Dai-Ichi Bank, now defunct, died at his Hongo home Tuesday. He was 90 years old. Funeral services will be held at the Tsukiji Honganji Temple on December 30. The late Mr. Sasaki was one of the founders of the Dai-Ichi Bank, known as the First National Bank, and was connected with that institution for more than half a century. That bank last year effected a merger with the Mitsui Bank with the result that the present Teikoku Bank was founded.

Wallace Warns Optimists

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 26.—United States Vice-President Henry A. Wallace in a radio broadcast today issued a strong warning to the nation's optimists declaring that greater losses in blood will be sustained by the American forces on the fighting front if the country's readiness to suffer heavy sacrifices and difficulties wanes, a Washington dispatch disclosed.

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TOKYO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1943

The Passing of a Significant Year

The close of the year serves to bring to mind the undeniable fact that the year which is now about to pass into the limbo was one of the most significant years in all history. So significant it was and so pregnant with potentialities for future developments that a perspective of its major events may well help to chart the course of the new year.

The chief characteristic of the war during the year 1943 was the launching of a general counter-offensive by the anti-Axis nations. In the Pacific area, the island-hopping operations of the American forces were continued with amazing tenacity and at a tremendous cost of human lives and material despite the pitifully meager results, indicating that a decisive clash was fast approaching.

In Europe, as soon as the withdrawal of the Axis forces from North Africa was effected in May, the Anglo-Americans advanced upon Italy, and aided by the treacherous surrender of the Badoglio regime, carried out successful landing operations in southern Italy. Premier Benito Mussolini, however, with the aid of his staunch friend Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler, miraculously escaped from the imminent danger which confronted him and succeeded in staging a remarkable comeback. In consequence, the northward advance of the Anglo-American armies is now being effectively checked in the region south of Rome.

On the Eastern Front, the Soviet Army, having checked the advance of the Axis forces at Stalingrad the year before, began its counter-offensive in May and in unprecedentedly fierce fighting has recovered a portion of the Ukraine. Meanwhile, with the Anglo-American forces preparing for the establishment of a second front in Europe, Germany has been consolidating her impregnable defenses which constitute the Grand Fortress of Europe.

Thus, both in East Asia and in Europe, the war in its general development has come to assume a definately decisive character.

The developments in the field of diplomacy have been no less eventful. The construction of Greater East Asia has shown amazingly rapid and steady progress in scale and extent, and although the anti-Axis nations have been actively carrying out their customary machination and plotting in an attempt to wage an ideological counter-offensive on a wholesale scale, their attempts have been unavailing. Early in January, the National Government of China declared war upon the United States and Britain, thus inaugurating an epochal advance in East Asiatic diplomacy. Japan on her side put into effect her new China policy based on the spirit of reciprocal amity and blood-linked fraternity, returning her concessions to China and relinquishing her consular jurisdiction and other extraterritorial rights. In October, a Treaty of Alliance was concluded to climax these constructive diplomatic endeavors between the two countries.

The promises made early during the course of the War of Greater East Asia were carried out; namely, Burma and the Philippines were enabled to secure their complete independence in August and October, respectively. About the same time, the Indonesians were granted the right of increased participation in administration, while in November the historic Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations was convened in Tokyo whereby the total war strength of the one billion peoples of East Asia was completely mobilized. The Assembly furthermore set an example for the whole world by promulgating the Joint Declaration which embodies the basic principles for the construction not only of a new Greater East Asia but for the establishment of a new era of peace and harmony for the whole world.

In contrast, the political developments in the enemy camp have been far from auspicious. The year opened with the fourth Anglo-American conference at Casablanca which adopted the so-called Casablanca formula of stressing operations against Germany. But with the victorious march of the Soviet Army on the Eastern Front, the Soviet Union launched upon a political offensive which ushered in an antagonism between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-Americans. The friction which was then engendered over the Polish question, coupled with the difficult question of the second front and the Standley affair, aggravated the relations between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-American camp, particularly the United States. The British Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden, was thereupon forced to visit Washington in an attempt to mediate between the Soviet Union and the United States.

These complications, together with the growing criticism in the United States of the unfavorable progress of American operations in the Pacific, caused the American public to favor the principle of stressing the Pacific area over the European, which caused Churchill to hurry to Washington to attend the fifth Anglo-American conference. The result was the revision of the Casablanca formula in favor of an ambiguous policy of carrying out the Pacific and the European operations simultaneously.

Shortly after the betrayal of Badoglio, the sixth Anglo-American conference was held in August at Quebec. This conference discussed the problems of political operations in Europe arising as an aftermath of the Italian crisis, but it apparently could do little without the cooperation of the Soviet Union. In an attempt to remedy this failure, a conference of the foreign ministers of Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union was held in Moscow in the middle of October, later joined by the representative of Chungking. Although no real evidence of unity was forthcoming, this conference was followed by increasingly active political maneuverings on the part of the anti-Axis nations, evidenced particularly by Anglo-American intrigues in the Balkans and by counter-measures on the part of the Moscow Government.

In the latter part of November, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin finally met in conference at Teheran. Just prior to this meeting, Roosevelt and Churchill met Chiang Kai-shek at Cairo and issued a three-power statement concerning their cooperation in operations against Japan. At the Teheran conference, the participating nations voiced the resolution to prosecute their operations against Germany, suggesting the undertaking of a second front and taking up the question of the independence of Iran.

After the Teheran conference, Roosevelt and Churchill again met at Cairo, this time with President Ismet Inonu of Turkey and the Soviet Ambassador to Turkey also participating. The aim of this conference was to persuade Turkey to join the anti-Axis group, but the attempt failed utterly as Turkey steadfastly refused to abandon her policy of strict neutrality. Similar attempts were also made upon Bulgaria, Rumania, and Hungary, the machinations against Bulgaria being particularly intense, accompanied by the bombing of Sofia by an Anglo-American air force and the subjecting of the people of that country to a terrific war of nerves.

Throughout these developments, it appeared that the Soviet Union succeeded in securing a dominating position over the Anglo-American clique. The Soviet Union succeeded in causing the Moscow conference to adopt a declaration concerning the emancipation of Austria and the independence of Iran. Moreover, the Soviet Union participated in the Mediterranean Committee at the time of the surrender of Badoglio, participated in the North African Committee on the "liberation" of France, and is supporting the Tito regime in Jugoslavia which has come to prevail over the Mikhailovitch faction which had the support of Britain. The Soviet Union also succeeded in concluding a mutual defense pact with the exiled regime of Czechoslovakia. Whatever may be the outward appearances at the moment, these diplomatic offensive measures of the Soviet Union, before which the Anglo-Americans have had to give way, are bound to cause serious complications to the Anglo-American camp in the future.

With regard to post-war plans, the Anglo-American group initiated their schemes with the announcement by Churchill in March of a four-year plan of post-war construction in which he proposed the domination of the world by Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union. Following this announcement, however, currency plans announced by Britain and the United States respectively disclosed serious conflicts between these two countries. Another plan of world domination by these same three Powers was also announced by Prime Minister Jan C. Smuts of the Union of South Africa shortly after the Teheran conference. These measures of political offensive reveal that the ideological war is rapidly assuming an increasingly critical character.

But however much the war in both its military and political aspects approaches the decisively critical stage, an appraisal of these developments from a broad perspective reveals the enviable strength of Japan and her Axis allies. The coming year should demonstrate the unquestionable veracity of this appraisal.

Australian Dependence On America

Canberra's Relations With United States and Britain in Recent Years Discussed

By MORIO SASAKI
(From the Gaiko Jiho)

The Labor Party, having won an easy victory in the national election on August 21, continues as government party in Australia and Prime Minister John Curtin is leading his second cabinet. The result of the election shows that the Labor Party secured 13 new seats in the Lower House, giving them a total of 49 seats out of the total membership of 75, the United Australia party secured 14 seats, a reduction of 10 seats, and the United Party lost three seats, while the Independents have been able to keep the same number as before.

In order to examine the character of the second Curtin cabinet and to forecast the course it will henceforth take, one must have some idea of the Party's platform as well as its historical background in recent years.

Is Political Association

The labor Party in Australia is primarily a political association which stands above all for the interests of the labor class in the Commonwealth. The party derives its political power from the labor unions found mostly in the industrial centers of the states of South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. The major political platforms of the Party are as follows: (1) the nationalization or state control of industries, public service utilities and banking facilities, (2) the extension of public welfare and (3) the enhancement of domestic industries by means of tariff protection.

The Party's foreign policies are: (1) to uphold the principle of White Australia in order to elevate the standard of living, (2) the establishment of an independent economic structure by emancipation from the Empire's domination, (3) the adoption of an autonomous defense program as opposed to the policy of collective security, (4) the adherence to the principle of Australia first, (5) a policy of isolation from European complications and (6) the principle of Pacific first.

When the second European War broke out in 1939, the Labor Party, which was the Opposition at the time, opposed the policy of the United Australia Party which favored participation in the war. It stood by the principle of Australia first, and upheld the policy of neutrality, opposing the Menzies Cabinet to place the fate of Australia in the hands of Britain. When the treaty of alliance among Japan, Germany and Italy was signed on September 27, 1940, the Labor party outlined the following policies of Australia:

1. Obligations to be shared by Australia in Europe should be restricted to a minimum.
2. Australia's production of munitions should be speedily expanded, and she should cease depending on Britain for defense.
3. Australia should enlarge her defense forces and establish various wartime structures.

Menzies Forced to Resign

In face of the intense demands made by the Labor party, the Menzies Government was forced to resign and was replaced by the United Cabinet headed by Arthur W. Fadden. The new government however, proved of short duration, being replaced on October 6, 1941 by the Labor party after the lapse of only two months. About two months later the War of Greater East Asia suddenly broke out, and in the face of the quick southward advance of the Japanese Forces, Australia felt her imminent danger. Thus, the Curtin government adopted the following war measures:

1. The strengthening of its defense structure.
2. The formation of a dictatorial administrative power through the process of centralization.
3. A policy of dependence on the United States.

It will be seen that the first policy was related to the military affairs of Australia, the second to her political affairs and the third to her diplomatic affairs.

The main object here is to review the diplomatic affairs of the Australian Government since the outbreak of the second European War.

Divided Into Three

The diplomatic policy of the Commonwealth since the outbreak of the second Europan War up to the present may be divided into the following three periods: First, from the time of the declaration of war on September 3, 1939 by Britain on Germany to the formation on September 27, 1940 of a tripartite alliance among Japan, Germany and Italy; second, from the end of the first period to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia; and third, from the end of the second period to the present. During the first period, a measure of cooperation was shown by Australia toward Japan. During the second, Australia was wholly absorbed in her policy of complete dependence on Britain. The third period has been earmarked by her dependence on the United States for matters of defense and diplomacy.

The United Australia Cabinet headed by Robert G. Menzies was in power during the first period. Being extremely pro-British, the Government lost no time in deciding its policy of participation as soon as war was declared upon Germany by Britain, and made its intention clear to go to Britain's succour. She then sent her military and air forces to European fronts. However, in the minds of many Australians, there lingered the memories of their bitter experiences in the former European War and there were heard on every hand voices such as: "Australia should not sacrifice the paradise of the Pacific to please Britain," or "the defense of Australia should be given first consideration," or "aid to Britain should only be made out of the reserve power."

As a result of the opposition to the policy of the United Australian party, the Menzies Government was forced to resign and was succeeded by the first Labor Government under the leadership of Prime Minister John Curtin who had an overwhelming support of the Commonwealth people It should be noted, however, that the principle of Australia first did not mean any opposition to the general policy of collaboration with Britain. On the contrary, its aim was to secure independence of action on the basis of traditional ties of both nations. This point is of special importance in analyzing the political nature of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Had Good Reason for Insistence

On the other hand, Australia had a good reason for its insistence on the policy of Australia first. To begin with, it was extremely inconvenient for her to depend on Britain for matters of defense and economy because of the long intervening distance of 12,000 miles between the Commonwealth and Britain. Because of this geographical handicap, Australia had to seek Japanese friendship, although such a desire on her part could not be so strong as to risk her breaking of traditional political ties with Britain. At any rate, Australia wished to avoid frictions with Japan and her policy of seeking Japanese friendship was based upon this desire.

An example of this desire may be seen in her attitude toward Japan when complications arose between Japan and Britain over the Burma Road question in 1940. At that time Australia gave tacit recognition to Japan's claim for closing the Burma Road, and believed that Britain was going too far in her intervention in the China Affair. At that time Australians often expressed a sincere desire for the maintenance of amicable relation with our country, through an improvement of the strained relation between Japan and Britain. I can truly see in this attitude of Australia a glimpse of the true and preordained policy of the Commonwealth—a friendly relationship with Japan.

When, during the second period, the Anglo-Japanese diplomatic relations became acutely strained following the conclusion of the Axis Treaty of Alliance, it became increasingly clear that Australia would be dragged into the war. This seemed inevitable because as a member of the British Empire, the Commonwealth felt its obligation to assist Britain, and, further, because she was entirely dependent on the mother country for her own national defense. Gradually, Australia came to form one wing of the so-called ABCD encirclement and to take a hostile attitude toward Japan. Even at this stage, however, Australia seemed to be desirous of avoiding, if possible, a war with Japan in her wish to continue economic relations with the latter and to preserve peace in the Pacific. Taken on the whole, however, the second period under review was marked by Australia's dependence on Britain under the impact of latest developments in world affairs.

As soon as the War of Greater East Asia broke out during the third

(Continued on Page 3)

CLOUDS OF DISCONTENT MENACE U.S.

Inflation, Labor Disputes Disrupt Home Front

(From the Diamond)

With the development of inflation and the recurrence of labor disputes, America's domestic front is anything but peaceful. Threatening clouds of discontent hang low on the national horizon.

On November 3, Harold Ickes, Secretary of Interior and Petroleum Coordinator for National Defense, and John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers' Union, brought the coal mine strike to an abrupt settlement by concluding a temporary understanding on the new wage agreement providing for a wage increase of $1.50 a day. But the ill-feeling, between the Labor Union and the War Labor Board, created over the Illinois Agreement (the capital-labor agreement for a $3.00 a day wage increase concluded by the 30,000 Illinois mine workers on July 22) does not appear likely to be so easily ameliorated.

At this critical juncture, the 1,350,000 railway employes, after considering the new wage proposal made by the Special Investigatory Commission appointed by President Roosevelt, which permits a wage increase of $0.04 to $0.10 an hour on a gradual step-up basis as opposed to the $0.20 an hour increase demanded by the workers, are voting as to whether or not they should carry out a general strike.

Strike Inevitable

Besides the powerful Federation of the Five Great Railway Brotherhoods composed of locomotive operators, engineers, firemen, conductors and carmen, the American railway employes are divided up into fifteen other unions including the railway barn workers, trackmen, signalmen, marshalling yard firemen and oilers, baggage clerks and others. There the railway labor system is very complex. It is for this reason that a strike vote is being held; if the Government authorities persist in pushing through their new wage plan a general strike is said to be inevitable.

Although the coal mine strike was once more brought to a peaceful settlement, it was the fourth strike within the comparatively short period of the last six months. The rise in the cost of living and the inconsistent attempt to suppress the proportionate increase in wages are the causes for discontent among the workers. And, since this fundamental condition has yet to be solved, there is still a very great danger of such strikes occurring again in the future.

Moreover, after counting the numerous small-scale strikes in the various munition factories situated throughout the country, the extreme seriousness of conditions in America's labor world become quite apparent.

That the demand by the American labor unions for a boost in wages is being made with the purpose of stabilizing and expanding their own positions against the rising cost of commodities, and in view of the increasing profits being gained by the capitalists, is a foregone conclusion; but, on the other hand, it is also construed as a strong opposition to President Roosevelt's policy of suppressing inflation. The left-wing news organ Daily Worker says:

"America's present labor unrest has already entered its final stage. It is necessary for President Roosevelt and the labor unions to find a way out of the trouble by resorting to a last-minute move of some kind. The Government authorities should evict from office such autocratic and unversatile bureaucrats as Justice James F. Byrnes, Chairman of the Office of War Mobilization and Fred M. Winson, Director of the Economic Stability Bureau; President Roosevelt must also make the fullest use of the wartime authority invested upon him. . . ."

Since complete figures are unavailable, it is impossible to ascertain just how much the general commodity level has risen recently in the United States, but according to the statement made on August 11 by the Chairman of the War Labor Board, William B. Davis, during the one-year period between May, 1942 and May of this year, the average level for living expenses, excluding foodstuffs, rose 3 per cent, while that of provisions soared 21 per cent.

Make Big Profits

Furthermore, all enterprises from munition factories down to the smallest companies have been directly affected by the inflation. They have seen a remarkable increase in profits. According to a recent announcement, the gains made by the railroad companies during the first half of this year were exceptionally good. For example, the net profit of the Union Pacific Railroad Company during the first half of last year was $14,300,000; during the same period this year it jumped to $24,600,000. At the same time, the Baltimore-Ohio Railroad Company and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company saw profits increase from $12,600,000 to $21,800,000 and from $26,000,000 to $29,300,000 respectively.

Meanwhile, under conditions such as these, the ominous movements in the American labor world continue unabated. The attempts of the laboring class to protect their own interests have led to the disruption of America's war effort.

With the purpose of settling the labor problem politically, President Roosevelt invited representatives of the C.I.O., the A.F.L., and the Federation of the Five Great Railway Brotherhoods to the White House for a conference some time ago. It so happened that all of them were highly dissatisfied with the manner in which the War Labor Board was adhering to its policy of obstinacy.

Although the labor unrest in the United States should not be overestimated, the disagreement existing between the Government-capitalists-farm bloc group on the one side, and the labor unions on the other, is significant. It is a matter deserving close attention.

The Japanese Spirit

Ervin Baelz, Noted German Physician in Meiji Era, Possessed Deep Understanding of Japan's Spiritual Life

By SEIICHIRO DOMOTO
(From the Asahi)

Dr. Ervin Baelz, noted German physician and a member of the Medical Faculty of the Tokyo Imperial University during the middle of the Meiji Era and who made a lasting contribution to the medical world of Japan had a deep insight of the spiritual phase of the Japanese people, a spiritual life which he himself experienced. I wish to comment here on an article he contributed to a German daily in Cologne during the Russo-Japanese War (1904-5) entitled the "Japanese War Spirit and Their Total Disregard for Death."

Dr. Baelz begins his article by citing a pledge made by a prominent Prussian in the war for liberation in 1813, namely "We pledge that fathers shall not demand compensations for their sons, wives for their husbands, and soldiers shall not demand any renumeration from the State."

He then gives the following precept of the Japanese samurai: "When thou shalt go forth into the field of battle, thou shalt not think of the following three to be thine—thy family, thy home and thy life."

He further states that in the mind and body of the Japanese are crystallized the elements of patriotism that impel them gladly to sacrifice their individual self for the cause. Although we find in the peoples of some of the western countries some expressions of rigorous patriotism and austere racial sentiments, the patriotism of the Japanese has something more in addition to these western qualities. They are the spirit of Shinto which believes in the divine origin of the Japanese State, the Buddhist doctrine which disregards human life, the traditional feudal spirit of self-sacrifice, and inspirations derived from combats, individual valor and fidelity.

Pure Lofty Ideal

While the various political and social elements in the western countries exist separately, they are, in the case of the Japanese, crystallized in their patriotism which is their lofty and pure ideal. It should be stressed that such a lofty ideal can only be achieved by cutting the family ties. Before proceeding to war, Admiral Togo, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet, wrote to his family thus: "Hereafter I shall not send any letter to any of you. Nor shall I expect from any of you." Thus, by cutting off the family ties, he exerted his all for the service of the State.

General Nogi, shortly after his appointment as the commander of the Third Army, received a report of the death of one of his two sons at Nanzan. On receipt of this report, he wrote: "When the body of my son arrives in Tokyo, do not hold memorial rites for him. Wait until the death of the other son of mine and of myself and then hold a joint rites for all three of us."

All Japanese soldiers rejoice in meeting death in the field of battle. They take pride in this and never permit themselves to be taken prisoner. This was most clearly shown at the time of the sinking of the Hitachi Maru, a Japanese transport, by a Russian warship. On board were Japanese soldiers whose surrender from the western point of view would not have been dishonorable because the ship was unarmed and the infantrymen on board could not fight against the enemy warship. But all the Japanese soldiers refused to surrender.

From a western viewpoint, such an act was not only unnecessary but even irrational because to them the highest duty of the soldiers is to defend their nation and in this particular case harakiri would not be considered of service to the State.

Few Chosen People

Only a few chosen people have succeeded in the western countries in uniting the ideals of the East for the total disregard for one's life. These men are Alexander the Great, Caesar, Genghis Khan, Frederick the Great, and Napoleon. Without exception, they have all severed their ties with the family before going off on the rigorous path of their ideals. I have used the expression "rigorous path of ideals." But this expression is not correct in actuality because these men did not possess ideals but ideals possessed them. These men were controlled by a strong mental power of which they themsleves were unaware.

It is very astonishing that this subtle truth is known to the Japanese soldiers. When they leave for the battlefield they sever all personalities with the family and kin and consider that their civil life has completely ended and absorb themselves in undivided service to the country.

In order to understand such a complicated way of thinking the Western people should read the instructions left by Tokugawa Iyeyasu, one of the greatest figures in world history. He said: "The person who goes to war rejoicing in his coming death will make greater achievements than others in actual fighting." This is one of the doctrines of Buddhism. This point is further explained by a noted swordmaster who said to one of his pupils: "You have perfected your martial art of fencing. From now on you should study Zen teachings."

The Western people cannot think off sacrificing themselves to the State in disassociation with their duties to their families. This is a general idea of the Westerners.

Duty to State

On the other hand, it is clear that a person does not need to consider anything other than his duty to the State, his enemy becoming the only object of his attention. Such a person is a far more dreaded adversary than a formidable man in whose heart many foreign sentiments are nestling. If such two men should fight, there will be no doubt as to the winner.

When I tried to learn kendo, Japanese fencing, my instructor gave me the following instruction as a secret of this martial art:

"As soon as you face your opponent, you should have none but your opponent in your mind. You should attempt to overcome your opponent—you must overcome him."

But I could not use my sword from such a standpoint. The instruction even seemed amusing to me. In the first place, I could not make myself think of fencing to be such a serious and tragical art. Nor could I make myself submerge into such a profound state of mind demanded by the instructor.

When, however, I saw the actual combat of Japanese pupils fencing I realized that the instruction given me was true with the Japanese. Immediately as they began parrying, they seemed as if they were suddenly possessed by some evil spirit. It was extreme bravery. But it was not any act of hallucination, because there were daring perception and precise measurement along with their mad emotion and headlong dashing. The reason for this is not far to seek. When emotion is calm, one's intellect becomes clear, and with only one objective in mind, one's energy is concentrated and vigorous.

All this may be likened to the broad stream of human life which reaches a narrow gorge over which it dashes and expands into a tremendous power if all the power in its possession emits itself in inundation. There is no way of escape or outlet on all sides—there is only the way of advance.

SONGS FROM PRISON

By MAHATMA GANDHI

Open thine eyes,
And thou shalt See:

Him shalt thou See,
Whom thy most secret soul doth
love:

In all he dwelleth,
Therefore say nothing ill of any
man:

Boast not thy wealth, thy youth,
The day shall come when such
shall play thee false:

Fling wide the windows of thy
darkened heart,
Maintain thy soul's deep purpose,
fixed and sure:

Awake, and know the temple
where thou dwellest,
For in this shrine of flesh abideth
God Eternal:

Rejoice, rejoice,
For clear within thy soul
His voice is speaking,
His grace is scattering boons
beyond all price.

Fruits of Wisdom

The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it; and difficulties are but the maids of honor to set off the virtue.—Moliere.

* * *

It is not death, it is dying that alarms me.—Montaigne.